

29 July 2024
Our Ref 0875 /CONS/MV/sv

Jacqui Carreira-White
DAC Secretary
The Diocese of Bath and Wells
Flourish House
Cathedral Park
Wells
BA5 1FD

Dear Jacqui

GLASTONBURY St Benedict – New Heating Installation

Please find uploaded onto the online system a copy of our Faculty application covering the works to replace part of the existing heating system and floor at St Benedict's, Glastonbury.

St Benedict's has been plagued for several years by problems with their underfloor heating system - a system that was installed as part of a larger overarching reordering of the main interior spaces. The PCC have sought to resolve the various technical issues with their previous church architect (and the heating sub-contractor) and now after arbitration, have agreed a financial settlement. With this element concluded, the PCC have since appointed benjamin + beauchamp architects and BJP Consultancy Engineers to carry out a technical review of the existing system and to look at options for its overhauling.

The results of the technical review are contained in application document *Floor Repair Meeting Notes 09.11.2023*, but for ease, we can confirm that the approach agreed with the PCC, and illustrated by our submission, is to replace the existing joisted floor construction with a new insulated limecrete floor. The boarded finish will be replaced with all new stone flags. The heating will be upgraded to suit and will have the benefit of the solid floor construction to act as a heat sink. A specification by BJP for the new heating is also included.

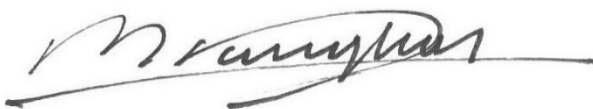
In respect of the *Statement of Need* and *Statement of Significance*, we have included copies of the 2012 statements as they are worthy references; ultimately however, the submission is more of a technical nature, and we hope that these won't need updating.

We are conscious that this is a deviation from the original Faculty but are assured that this is the best technical approach for the church. In respect of the use of stone flags in lieu of the timber boards, it is important to bear in mind that there is already a stone floor in the chancel and base of the west tower – the main entrance into the church – and these areas will remain untouched as part of the work.

This is a rather unusual application, and one which will undoubtedly give rise to some debate. As a consequence, we would be more than happy to meet with a DAC delegation at the church to answer any questions.

We hope that our application is acceptable and look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely



Michael Vaughan RIBA AABC
director
benjamin + beauchamp architects limited